

## ENID.

First published in 1859. When the *Idylls of the King* appeared in their final form, in 1888, the story of *Enid* was divided into two parts, the first part being entitled *The Marriage of Geraint*, the second, *Geraint and Enid*. The poem here given includes only the part of *Enid* which is now known as *The Marriage of Geraint*. Tennyson's story of *Enid* is based upon the prose version of the story, as it appears in the *Mabinogion*, a famous collection of Welsh fairy stories and legends.

Before beginning the study of the poem read the introductory note to *Morte D'Arthur*.

24-5. The Queen, Guinevere, was the daughter of Leodogran, a tributary king. When Leodogran had given his consent to the marriage of his daughter Guinevere to Arthur, the king sent Lancelot, his truest and bravest knight, to bring Guinevere to the court. Guinevere, not having yet seen the king, fell in love with Lancelot, and her love was returned. This secret love was continued, and under its influence, little by little, the ideals of the knights were lowered. The incidents in the story of *Enid* are supposed to have taken place shortly after the marriage of Arthur and Guinevere.

35. caitiff. Base, mean.

39. common sewer. This territory in which the bandits and caitiff knights were gathered is compared to a public drain or sewer which carries off the impurities of the city.

41. marches. Border country, frontiers.

45. Severn. A river of England and Wales, flowing south-west into Bristol Channel.

48. compass'd her with sweet observances. Surrounded her with tokens of his regard.

60. uxoriousness. Fondness for his wife.

78. If the current were less strong the water would break in striking against the stone.

86. all-puissant. All powerful.

93. liefer. More gladly.

100. high. Bright.

145. Whitsuntide. A Church festival which falls on the seventh Sunday after Easter.

146. Caerleon upon Usk. A town in Monmouth. The Usk is a tributary of the Severn.

148. Dean. A tract of country west of the Severn.